of culturally significant cities are being looked after by the Ministry of Urban Development.

Conservation of Jain Monuments in Karnataka

1363. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has approached the Central Government for providing financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 20 crores for conservation of Jain monuments; and

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal and by when the decision is expected to be communicated to the State Government of Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Culture has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 206.49 lakhs to CPWD for undertaking developmental works in and around 11 unprotected Jain Monuments and ASI has been allocated Rs. 260.00 lakhs for renovation and conservation of 15 centrally protected Jain Monuments in Karnataka.

Tourism potential of India and China

1364. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians toured China in the year 2001 and 2002 *vis-a-vis* Chinese visited India during that period;

(b) the steps taken to persuade Indian Tour Operators to exploit tourism prospects of China; and

(c) the other action proposed to explore the tourism potentials of both countries to the maximum?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) As per the latest report published by the World Tourism Organisation, 159361 Indians visited China and 13901 Chinese visited India in the year 2001. Information for the year 2002 is not available.

(b) and (c) A special initiative has been taken to obtain 'Approved Destination Status' from China which will enhance inflow of tourists from

China. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Tourism Cooperation with Peoples' Republic of China has been signed. An air service between China and India has already started.

Promotion of tourist places in Ranthambhor and Sawai Madhopur

†1365. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government are taking to promote Ranthambhor, Tiger Project and Sawai Madhopur as tourist places;

(b) the number of foreign tourists visited Rajasthan during the last one year and number of tourists who visited Sawai Madhopur; and

(c) the total number of tourist places in the Rajasthan and steps Government are taking to promote such spots alongwith the number of tourists visited each of the tourist place during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) The Department of Tourism promotes India as a whole including tourist places in Rajasthan through production of publicity material and dissemination of information through India tourism Offices in India and abroad.

(b) the number of foreign tourists who visited Rajasthan and Sawai Madhopur during the year 2002 are estimated as 428437 and 6185 respectively.

(c) Rajasthan has a large number of tourist places. Estimated tourist visits to some of the more popular places are as under:—

Place	Foreign tourists	Indian tourists
Jaipur	81451	589414
Udaipur	101303	471576
Jodhpur	38565	385700
Jaisalmer	25862	96642

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.